

# National Republican.

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NATIONAL CONVENTION.  
MARCH 17, 1861.

BY W. J. MURKIN & H.  
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**CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS**

Forty-First Congress—Second Regular Session

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1861.

**SENATE.**

**PROVISIONAL POSITION.**

Mr. PIERCE, of New Hampshire, introduced, numerously signed by ladies, asking that the sale of intoxicating drinks in the Districts of Columbia be prohibited, and that henceforth no person should be permitted to sell or manufacture any article which would be calculated to excite the passions, and after some time spent thereon adjourned.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

Mr. DAWES, of Mass., from the Committee on Appropriations, reported the bill of the Senate, which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations, to transfer an appropriation for public printing and binding; which was passed.

Mr. PLATT, of Vt., moved to introduce a resolution to inquire into the constitutionality of the enabling act of the State of Virginia, by which all the State offices were vacated, and the vacancies filled by appointment.

Mr. BROOKS, of N. Y., objected. Congress, he said, had reconstructed Virginia several times.

Mr. PLATT. The motion was carried.

Mr. DAWES, of Mass., moved the same.

Mr. DAWES, of Mass., moved the same, relating to a railroad from that State to Wisconsin. Referred to the Committee on Roads and Canals.

Mr. BURGESS, of Cal., from the Committee on Mines and Minerals, introduced a bill to amend the act of 1850 so as to extend the right of way, to ditch and dam companies over the public lands.

Amendments offered by Mr. NICHOLAS, of Ind., and Mr. JOHNSON, of California, were adopted, and the bill passed.

Mr. MORSE, of N. Y., from the same committee, reported adversely upon the House bill, and voted against it.

Mr. FORD, of Pa., said this was not a report of the full committee, and that Mr. Burgess would present a minority report the next day.

Mr. BURGESS was proposing to speak on the report when the morning hour expired.

M. R. N. BUTLER'S CASE.

Mr. STROTHORN, of Mich., then called up the case of Mr. H. B. Butler, of Tennessee, who was charged with illegally dispersed a casket.

Mr. FORD. The testimony was read in full at the trial of Mr. Butler.

A. Schenck testified to the fact that he was treated as the annexation of the State of Kansas, and that he himself to procure an appointment for his son, and that he was sent to Washington, D. C., to represent him before the Senate.

Mr. SHAWNEE thought the Senate had always erred in establishing a treaty in its deliberations, and the first year he came to the Senate he proposed a bill to prohibit the same.

This idea of secession was a traditional one.

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